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HOLLYWOOD FREEWAY

FRANK SWERTLOW

Graphic scenes give 'JFK' explosive edge

Director **Oliver Stone** was in a good mood Monday night. He was smiling and receiving hugs and kisses from well-wishers in the rear of the Samuel Goldwyn Theater in Beverly Hills just before a screening of his newest film, "JFK."

After three incendiary hours, there were cheers and applause from normally jaded industry types at the film's conclusion.

What they had seen had practically sucked the air right out of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences theater. There was a gasp during the segment of the famed Zapruder film showing the right side of President Kennedy's head explode.

Parents who want to take their older children to this R-rated film should know that it contains some extremely graphic footage, including some JFK autopsy scenes that might also trouble adults.

"They incorporated real photographs with re-created scenes," Warner Bros. spokeswoman Vivian Boyer said of the autopsy segment.

The actual photographs of the slain president's head had been released by the government years ago and published at the time, said Stone's spokeswoman, **Andrea Jaffe**.

But this is the first time these photos have appeared on the big screen, Boyer said.

This adds a powerful element to an already powerful drama.

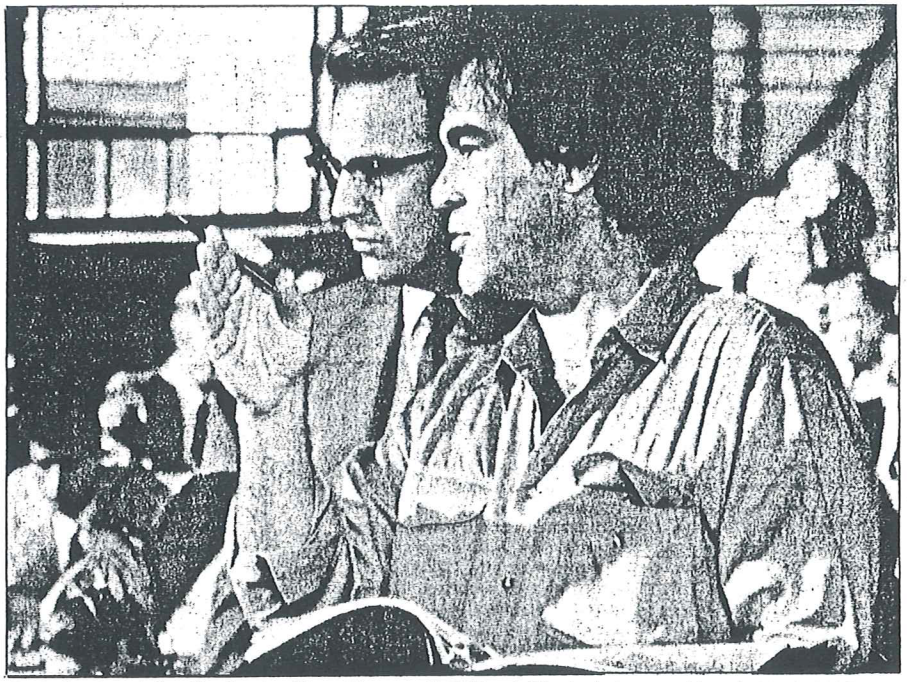
Chips shots

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, is getting a little help from the reigning Queen of Prime Time Television. **Roseanne Arnold** and husband **Tom** are backing Harkin and already have tossed one Hollywood soiree for him. The Arnolds like Harkin because of his economic policy, but it also helps that Tom Arnold hails from Iowa, where the couple have their getaway farm outside Eldon. Even with their backing, Harkins has a long way to go. Hollywood's favorite is Nebraska **Sen. Bob Kerrey**, followed by Arkansas **Gov. Bill Clinton**. . . .

Columbia certainly has high hopes for "The Prince of Tides." The Sony Studio is sending out a 40-page, high-gloss, color brochure for its Christmas release, which stars **Nick Nolte** and **Barbra Streisand**. . . .

Swinging soiree

There could be a front-runner in the race to find the actress to play Scarlett O'Hara in "Scarlett." Producer **Robert Halmi** showed up Monday night at the Avco theater in Westwood to take a long look at Irish actress **Tara Fitzgerald**, who co-stars in the forthcoming "Here's My Song." Fitzgerald may have one thing going for her: her first name, which not only is the same as Scarlett's Southern plantation, but the ancestral home of the kings of Ireland. Much of the sequel to "Gone With the Wind" takes place there.



Kevin Costner, left, with director Oliver Stone on "JFK" set. Film includes graphic autopsy scenes.

Madonna, who probably is not in the running for Scarlett but who might make an interesting selection, dazzled the paparazzi when she arrived with **Alek Keshishian**, who directed her in "Truth or Dare."

Also dropping by were **Mimi Rogers, Robert Loggia, Timothy Dalton, Leonard Nimoy, Ron Silver, Peter Weller, Perry King, Dudley Moore, Burgess Meredith, John Shay, Diane Baker, Jack Carter, Montel Williams, Arthur Hiller**, the film's stars, **Ned Beatty** and **Adrian Dunbar**, and director **Peter Chelson**. The film centers on the career of Irish tenor Joseph Locke, who was kicked out of England for tax evasion and brought back for one final concert. Ironically, Beatty, who plays Locke and who does not sing in the film, is a singer and went to college on a singing scholarship.

Fun guy

Leslie Nielsen says there indeed will be another "Naked Gun" movie, called "Naked Gun, 33⅓," and he adds that he wouldn't be surprised if there is a fourth. Why? "Naked Gun 2½" was Paramount's big summer hit, pulling in about $90 million domestically.

Nielsen, who previously had played TV heavies, credits the change in his career to the Zucker brothers, who put him in "Airplane!" more than a decade ago. "They spotted the closet comedian in me," he said.

With his new-found stardom, he is also discovering that he is a hot property. "Things are changing rapidly," he said. "People are looking for material for me. It's nice at this stage in my life."

Would he strap on a gun again with real bullets? "Any time," he said, "if it is a good part."